

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 21, 2005. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 to 13 remain pending in the application, with Claims 2, 3, 6 and 8 having been cancelled herein. Claims 1, 12 and 13 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The specification was objected to for allegedly failing to provide antecedent basis for the claimed “communication modes” and “state modes”. Inasmuch as the claims have been amended to provide even further clarity of the claimed subject matter, it can readily be understood that the specification clearly provides the requisite antecedence for the now claimed “power save wireless communication mode”, “active wireless communication mode”, “normal stand-by mode”, and “power save stand-by mode”. (See for example, page 18, line 23 to page 22, line 12.) Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 9 and 11 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the claims have been amended to make the subject matter thereof even clearer. Nonetheless, the Examiner is directed to the description found from at least page 18, line 22 to page 22, line 12 for a description of the claimed process. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112 rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 6, 8, 9, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,571,103 (Novakov), and Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Novakov in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,622,031 (McCleary). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns power saving mode operations of a device (e.g., a facsimile apparatus) that communicates via a wireless communication (e.g., Bluetooth). According to the invention, when the device changes wireless communication modes (e.g., switches between a power save wireless mode and an active wireless mode), the device also correspondingly switches between normal and power stand-by modes. If an inquiry from another device is received, the inquiry is provided to a notification unit that can respond to the inquiry. However, if no inquiry is received from another device, the device itself generates an internal inquiry instead and provides the generated inquiry to the notification unit. As a result, the generated inquiry continually monitors the state of the device and the notification unit can readily respond whenever an inquiry is received from another device.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is an apparatus having a communication function, comprising a first switching device adapted to switch between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode, a second switching device adapted to switch between a normal stand-by mode and a power save stand-by mode of the apparatus in accordance with the switching by the first switching device, a notifying task adapted to notify a state of the apparatus to another apparatus in response to an inquiry from the other apparatus, and an execution task adapted to selectively execute a first process of notifying the inquiry from the another apparatus to the notifying task, and a second process of generating an inquiry about the state of the apparatus in place of the inquiry by the other apparatus, and for notifying the generated inquiry to the notifying task in accordance with the switching of communication modes by the first switching device.

Amended independent Claims 12 and 13 are method and computer medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of switching of an apparatus between a normal stand-by mode and a power save stand-by mode in accordance with switching between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode. Additionally, the applied art is also not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of selectively executing a first process of notifying an inquiry from another apparatus to a notifying task that notifies the other apparatus of a state of the apparatus in response the inquiry, and executing a second process of generating an inquiry about the state of the apparatus in place of the inquiry by the other apparatus, and notifying the generated inquiry to the notifying task in accordance with the switching of communication modes between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode.

Novakov is merely seen to disclose that a local station and a mobile station set-up and establish communication with one another. After the initial set-up process is complete, the local station transmits a park command to the mobile station, whereby the mobile station enters a power saving mode. Thus, while Novakov may provide for switching between a power save wireless communication mode and a active wireless communication mode, Applicants fail to see where Novakov also switches the mobile station between a normal stand-by mode and a power save stand-by mode in accordance with the switching between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode.

In addition, Applicants fail to see where Novakov executes a first process of notifying an inquiry from another apparatus to a notifying task that notifies the other apparatus of a state of the apparatus in response the inquiry, and executes a second process of generating an inquiry about the state of the apparatus in place of the inquiry by the other apparatus, and notifying the generated inquiry to the notifying task in accordance with the switching of communication modes between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode.

In view of the foregoing, Claims 1, 12 and 13 are not believed to be anticipated by Novakov.

McCleary is not seen to add anything to overcome the foregoing deficiencies of Novakov. In this regard, McCleary is merely seen to disclose a wireless handheld device that can communicate via Bluetooth specifications. However, McCleary is much like Novakov in that it is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of switching of an apparatus between a normal stand-by mode and a power save stand-by mode in accordance with switching between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode. Additionally, McCleary is also not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of selectively executing a first process of notifying an inquiry from another apparatus to a notifying task that notifies the other apparatus of a state of the apparatus in response the inquiry, and executing a second process of generating an inquiry about the state of the apparatus in place of the inquiry by the other apparatus, and notifying the generated inquiry to the notifying task in accordance with the switching of communication modes between a power save wireless communication mode and an active wireless communication mode.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 to 13 are believed to be allowable over the applied art.

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CLAIM TO PRIORITY

As a formal matter, Applicants again request that the Examiner provide an indication in the next communication acknowledging Applicants' claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents, which were filed on January 11, 2002.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward A. Kmett
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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